

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections043-0000-0456
Thematic Nom. cross reference

1. Name

Inv Nos 43-0000-0432/0449 see list

historic Byre and Bluff Barns of Doniphan County Thematic Resources Nominationand or common N/A

2. Location

street & number See inventory and individual nomination formsN/A not for publicationcity, town N/AN/A vicinity ofstate N/Acode N/Acounty N/Acode N/A

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thematic	<u>N/A</u> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple ownership - See individual nomination formsstreet & number N/Acity, town N/AN/A vicinity ofstate N/A

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Registry of Deedsstreet & number Doniphan County Courthousecity, town Troystate Kansas 66087

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Doniphan County Cultural Resources Survey has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ nodate 1985 ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☒ localdepository for survey records Kansas State Historical Society, 120 W. 10thcity, town Topekastate Kansas 66612

7. Description

Condition

☒ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The eighteen nominated byre and bluff barns of Doniphan County (ca. 1860-1933) are located south of US Highway 36 in Doniphan County, Kansas (pop. 9,268), with the exception of three barns, which are located north of the highway. The land south of the present highway has a gently rolling terrain, historically attracting stock and dairy cattle farmers. The land north of the highway borders the Missouri River and is rimmed by massive bluffs of unstable, loess soil.

Most of the nominated barns were built to house stock and dairy cows and remain in active agricultural use. These vernacular wooden and cement structures share a common feature in that at least one side of each barn's foundation is embedded in an earthen bank or bluff; the majority of the barns are built into shallow banks, two of the barns are built into bluffs.

Twelve of the eighteen barns are one-story, three-bay, center entrance, wooden structures with limestone foundations and gable roofs. Eleven of these twelve structures have full byre or basement levels. All of the barns are characterized as one-story, having either a threshing or a hay floor on the ground level and a byre or basement level, eleven of the barns have extant hay lofts. Fourteen of the barns are built into a northern embankment.

There are groupings of period types, such as the six board and batten gable roof barns constructed in the 1870s and 1880s whose louvered venting forms an integral part of their styling; the three, large, gambrel roof, cement barns of the 1910s and 1930s, two of which were built into bluffs; and the gradual transition from mortised and tenoned, post and beam construction to nailed plank and balloon framing.

The byre and bluff barns of Doniphan County are relatively rare. The nominated barns maintain a high degree of structural and architectural integrity, the common alteration affecting many of the buildings has been the replacement of the original roof with a metal roof.

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043-
0000 Inventory--Byre and Bluff Barns of Doniphan County

- 0342 1. Nicholas Bohr Barn-Troy vicinity, SE1/4, Section 3, Township 4S, Range 21E
- 0214 2. Godfrey Nuzum Barn-Sparks vicinity, N 117 1/2 acres of SE1/4, Section 7, Township 2S, Range 19E, except 6 1/2 acres in NE corner
- 0147 3. Mission-Herring Barn-Highland vicinity, SW1/4, SE1/4, Section 24, Township 2S, Range 19E
- 0277 4. J. A. Symms Barn-Bendena vicinity, NE1/4, Section 26, Township 4S, Range 20E
- 0346 5. Fred W. Kienhoff Barn-Wathena vicinity, W1/2, SW1/4 Section 2, Township 4S, Range 21E
- 0336 6. Chrystal Herman Barn-Wathena vicinity, E1/2, NW1/4, Section 1, Township 4S, Range 21E
- 0316 7. George Kinkhead Barn-Troy vicinity, 10 acres in the SW1/4, SW1/4, NE1/4, Section 17, Township 3S, Range 21E, except 1/6 acres near SE corner
- 0278 8. T. L. White Barn-Bendena vicinity, NW1/4, Section 26, Township 4S, Range 2
- 0152 9. Dr. John S. Long Barn-Highland vicinity, beginning at a point 1200' north of the SE corner of Section 34 Township 2S, Range 19E, thence west 900', thence north 750', thence east 900', thence south 750' to the point of beginning.
- 0157 10. John R. Hale Barn-Highland vicinity, NE1/4, Section 10, Township 3S, Range 19E
- 0162 11. William Ritenour Barn-Leona vicinity, S1/2, NE1/4, Section 16, Township 3S, Range 19E
- 0163 12. John Streib Barn-Leona vicinity, NW1/4, Section 17, Township 3S, Range 19E, except two tracts; Begin at the SW corner of said quarter section running N 40 rods, thence E 37 22/25 rods, thence S 40 rods, thence W to POB and begin 40 rods N of SE corner of said quarter thence N 43 rods 10', thence W 73 rods 5', thence S 43 rods 10', thence east to point of beginning.
- 0171 13. George Hanson Barn-Leona vicinity, W1/2, W1/2, Section 29, Township 3S, Range 19E
- 0208 14. Mathew Eylar Barn (1)-Denton vicinity, All of Section 35, Township 4S, Ran 19E, except NW1/4

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- 0460 15. Mathew Eylar Barn (2)-Denton vicinity, All of Section 36, Township 4S, Range 19E, except NE1/4
- 0272 16. M.D.L. Williams Barn-Bendena vicinity, SW1/4, Section 20, Township 4S, Range 20E
- 0457 17. Albert Albers Barn-Bendena vicinity, N 93 acres of SW1/4, Section 21, Township 4S, Range 20E
- 0381 18. John Silvers Barn-Wathena vicinity, E1/2, SW1/4, Section 33, Township 2S, Range 22E

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The byre and bluff barns built between 1860 and 1933 generally cost from \$2,000.00 to \$3,000.00 and while this may have been cost effective investment, it was an expensive investment. In addition, the higher degree of skilled craftsmanship required to construct a byre or bluff barn as opposed to most barns without foundations also hindered their construction. While the byre and bluff barns of Doniphan County are a sturdy survivor of a barn type built in Doniphan County between 1860 and 1933 they are not prolific, being far outnumbered by more inexpensive, rectangular wooden barns without foundations.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See attached sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property See individual forms

Quadrangle name See individual forms

Quadrangle scale See individual forms

UTM References See individual forms

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

See individual forms

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Martha Gray Hagedorn, Architectural Historian

organization Kansas State Historical Society

date October 28, 1986

street & number 120 West 10th

telephone 913-296-5264

city or town Topeka

state Kansas 66612

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society

date October 28, 1986

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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